

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 30, with the following rewritten paragraph:

b1
-- In the example shown, the machine 5 which bears the rating plate, but is itself not shown, is provided with signal transmitters which are suitable for converting relevant operating data into signals which can be transmitted to a data input 14 of the memory chip 12. For this purpose, the signals, represented symbolically by 16, are transmitted to a receiver 18 which is connected to the data input 14 which at the same time serves to supply power to the memory chip 12 during the transmission of data out of the machine 5. If appropriate, the receiver 18 for non-contact data and power transmission can also be replaced by a permanent line connection, that is to say by fixed wiring.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 4, with the following rewritten paragraph:

b2
-- In order to read out the data stored in the memory chip 12, but also to read in data which cannot be obtained within the machine 5 and have to be supplied from outside, for example data about the place of use of the machine 5 or an existing rental agreement, or in order to read in all the data to be stored if the machine 5 is not provided with a signal generator or the like, compatible appliances can be used, for example in the form of a laptop 20 or an operating hours counter 220, each being provided with a transmitter/receiver 24 or 26, which is suitable for transmitting data and operating power

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in a non-contacting manner to a transmitter/receiver 28 connected to a second data input
and output 30 on the memory chip elip. --
